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ONE-SIDED CONTINUOUS DEPENDENCE OF MAXIMAL SOLUTIONS.(U)  
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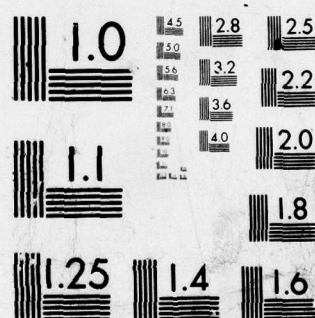
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ONE-SIDED CONTINUOUS DEPENDENCE OF MAXIMAL SOLUTIONS

Eric Schechter

Technical Summary Report #2016  
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ABSTRACT

Existence of a maximal solution is proved for a differential equation satisfying a one-sided variant of Carathéodory's condition. The maximal solution is shown to dominate all solutions of a very general differential inequality. Also a best-possible condition is proved for the dependence of the maximal solution on the initial data and on the right-hand side of the equation.

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# SIGNIFICANCE AND EXPLANATION

Many applied problems in fluid mechanics can be modelled by nonlinear evolution equations of the form

$$(E) \quad u'(t) = A(t, u(t)) + B(t, u(t)) + g(t) .$$

Here  $u(t) = u(t, x) = u(t, x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is a vector-valued function of time and space, which represents the state of the system at time  $t$ . The operators  $A$  and  $B$  are, typically, nonlinear partial differential operators in the spatial variables, and  $g(t) = g(t, x)$  is a given forcing term.

Equation (E) usually is so complicated that there is no hope of finding explicit solutions in closed form. Thus it is important to obtain qualitative, and whenever possible, quantitative information about the solution  $u$  of (E). This often can be accomplished by showing that  $u$  is the limit of an approximating sequence of solutions  $u_n$  of simpler equations  $(E_n)$ . For such an analysis (which will be given elsewhere) some crude estimates of  $\|u(t)\|$  are needed, where  $\| \cdot \|$  is a Banach space norm or some other measurement of how large  $u(t) = u(t, x)$  is and how much  $u(t, x)$  varies when  $x$  varies. Such estimates often can be obtained from a differential inequality of the form

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\| \leq f(t, \|u(t)\|) .$$

That inequality implies  $\|u(t)\| \leq z(t)$ , where  $z(t)$  is the maximal (i.e. largest) solution of the scalar ordinary differential equation

$$z'(t) = f(t, z(t)) \quad (t \geq 0) ,$$

$$z(0) = \|u(0)\| .$$

In this paper we investigate the properties of maximal solutions  $z(t)$ , especially those properties relevant to the limiting behavior of (E). In particular, we determine in what sense the assumption  $f_n \rightarrow f$  implies  $z_n \rightarrow z$ , under hypotheses on  $f$  which will make it possible to apply our results to (E).

# ONE-SIDED CONTINUOUS DEPENDENCE OF MAXIMAL SOLUTIONS

Eric Schechter

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## 1. Introduction

In this paper we consider the solutions of initial value problems of the form

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} x'(t) &= f(t, x(t)) & (0 \leq t < T), \\ x(0) &= w, \end{aligned}$$

where  $T$  is some positive number or  $\infty$ . We assume that  $w \geq 0$  and that

$$(1.2) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ & \text{ is a function such that } f(t, y) \text{ is locally} \\ & \text{integrable in } t \text{ for each fixed } y, \text{ and increasing and} \\ & \text{right-continuous in } y \text{ for almost every fixed } t. \end{aligned} \right.$$

These conditions do not determine  $x(t)$  uniquely. (For instance, consider the equation  $x'(t) = \sqrt{x(t)}$  with  $x(0) = 0$ .) In this paper we prove the existence of a maximal solution  $x_{\max}(t)$  of (1.1). We show that  $x_{\max}$  not only dominates all solutions of (1.1), but also all generalized solutions (in a sense made precise in Section 2) of (1.1) and of the more general initial value problem

$$(1.3) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} v'(t) &\leq f(t, v(t)) & (0 \leq t < T), \\ v(t) &\geq 0, \\ v(0) &= w. \end{aligned} \right.$$

Also we obtain a best-possible result about the dependence of  $x_{\max}$  on  $w$  and  $f$ .

The existence of maximal solutions of (1.1) can be shown by a variant of Filippov's methods; see [3]. However, we shall obtain the existence of maximal solutions as a byproduct of our proofs of other results.

Theorem III in this paper is analogous to, and may be motivated by, the following simpler result: Let  $T$  be a positive number. Let  $A$  be a directed set. Let  $f_\infty$  and  $\{f_a : a \in A\}$  be measurable functions from  $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$  into  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying

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$$(1.4) \quad \begin{cases} |f_{\infty}(t, x) - f_{\infty}(t, y)| \leq K(t) |x - y|, \\ |f_a(t, x) - f_a(t, y)| \leq K(t) |x - y|, \\ |f_{\infty}(t, x)| \leq M(t), \quad |f_a(t, x)| \leq M(t), \end{cases}$$

for some fixed  $K, M \in L^1[0, T]$ . Then

$$\lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t f_a(s, y) ds = \int_0^t f_{\infty}(s, y) ds$$

for every  $t$  in  $[0, T]$  and  $y$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if and only if for every  $p$  in  $[0, T]$  and  $w$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the unique solution of

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= f_a(t, x(t)) & (p \leq t \leq T), \\ x(p) &= w \end{aligned}$$

converges (in the sense of nets, as  $a$  increases in  $A$ ) to the unique solution of

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= f_{\infty}(t, x(t)) & (p \leq t \leq T), \\ x(p) &= w. \end{aligned}$$

A variant of the above theorem was proved in [1]; however, the methods in [1] rely on the Lipschitz condition in (1.4) and do not generalize to cover the case described in (1.2). The above theorem and an assortment of generalizations can also be proved using the methods in [2].

One reason for interest in problem (1.1), (1.2) is the following: Let  $(U, \|\cdot\|)$  be some Banach space of functions, and let  $A(t)$  be some time-dependent nonlinear partial differential operator. Consider the initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned} u'(t) &= A(t)u(t) & (t \geq 0), \\ u(0) &= u_0. \end{aligned}$$

For many purposes it is important to have estimates on  $\|u(t)\|$ . In many applications  $u(t)$  satisfies some condition such as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \|u(t)\| \leq f(t, \|u(t)\|)$$

where  $f$  satisfies (1.2). Let  $w = \|u(0)\|$ ; then  $\|u(t)\| \leq x_{\max}(t)$ . Theorems II and III of this paper will be used in [2] for estimates of this sort.



## 2. Statement of results

### Notation.

Let  $R_+ = [0, +\infty)$ . A function  $g$  is increasing if  $y \geq z$  implies  $g(y) \geq g(z)$ , and right-continuous if  $y_n \uparrow y$  implies  $g(y_n) \rightarrow g(y)$ . A function  $x : [0, T) \rightarrow R_+$  is nonextendable (or  $T$  is final for  $x$ ) if either  $T = \infty$  or  $x(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t$  increases to  $T$ .

A function  $x : [0, T) \rightarrow R_+$  is a solution of (1.1) if  $x$  is absolutely continuous on compact subsets of  $[0, T)$ , satisfies the differential equation almost everywhere in  $[0, T)$ , and satisfies the initial condition. Note that since  $w$  and  $f$  are nonnegative,  $x(t)$  must be nonnegative and increasing.

### Theorem I.

Assume  $f$  satisfies (1.2) and  $w$  is some nonnegative number.

Then (1.1) has at least one solution for some  $T > 0$ . Every solution  $x(t)$  of (1.1) can be continued to a nonextendable solution  $x : [0, T_x) \rightarrow R_+$ .

Among the nonextendable solutions of (1.1) there exists a maximal solution  $x_m : [0, T_m) \rightarrow R_+$ . That is:  $x_m$  is a nonextendable solution; and if  $x$  is any other nonextendable solution, then  $0 < T_m \leq T_x$  and  $x(t) \leq x_m(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, T_m)$ .

Clearly, the maximal solution is unique, since any two maximal solutions must dominate each other.

Theorem II, below, concerns solutions of (1.3) in a generalized sense. The differential inequality  $v'(r) \leq f(r, v(r))$  is not suitable for some purposes, e.g. when  $v$  is not differentiable. So we shall replace that inequality with the following more general condition:

$$(2.1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{either (i) } \int_r^t f(s, v(s)) ds > 0 \text{ as } t \downarrow r, \text{ and} \\ \limsup_{t \downarrow r} [v(t) - v(r)] / \int_r^t f(s, v(s)) ds \leq 1, \\ \text{or (ii) } \int_r^{r+\varepsilon} f(s, v(s)) ds = 0 \text{ for some } \varepsilon > 0, \\ \text{and } v(\cdot) \leq v(r) \text{ on } [r, r + \varepsilon). \end{array} \right.$$

The following notations will be used in Theorem II:  $f$  is a function satisfying (1.2), and  $v : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is some function. Hence (by Theorem I) for each  $p$  in  $[0, T)$  there exists a unique maximal solution  $x_p : [p, T_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{cases} x'_p(t) = f(t, x_p(t)) & (p \leq t < T_p), \\ x_p(p) = v(p), \end{cases}$$

with final time  $T_p$ .

For motivation note that if  $v$  is a nonextendable solution of (1.1) then  $v$  satisfies condition (2.3) of Theorem II, and hence also the other conditions.

#### Theorem II.

Let  $f$  be a function satisfying (1.2). Let  $v : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a measurable function which is bounded on compact subsets of  $[0, T)$ . Assume  $T > 0$ , and either  $T = \infty$  or  $\limsup_{t \uparrow T} v(t) = \infty$ . Define maximal solutions  $x_p$  and final times  $T_p$  as in (2.2).

Then conditions (2.3), (2.4), and (2.5) are equivalent:

$$(2.3) \quad v(t) - v(r) \leq \int_r^t f(s, v(s)) ds \text{ whenever } 0 \leq r \leq t < T.$$

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{cases} v(t) \leq \liminf_{r \uparrow t} v(r) \text{ for every } t \text{ in } (0, T), \\ \text{and (2.1) holds for every } r \text{ in } [0, T). \end{cases}$$

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{cases} \text{For every } p \text{ in } [0, T), T_p \leq T \text{ and } v(t) \leq x_p(t) \\ \text{for all } t \text{ in } [p, T_p). \end{cases}$$



Moreover, if (2.3), (2.4), (2.5) hold, then also

(2.6)  $v$  has bounded variation on  $[0, t]$  for every  $t$  in  $[0, T)$ , and

(2.7)  $v$  is nonextendable, i.e. either  $T = \infty$  or  $\liminf_{t \uparrow T} v(t) = \infty$ .

Theorem III is stated in the terminology of nets. The reader may read "sequence" for "net" and let  $A = \{\text{positive integers}\}$  if he so chooses. The additional generality of nets is needed for an application in [2].

The following notations will be used in Theorem III:  $f_\infty$  and  $\{f_a : a \in A\}$  are functions satisfying (1.2);  $w_\infty$  and  $\{w_a : a \in A\}$  are nonnegative numbers;  $p$  is a nonnegative number. Hence we can define the maximal solutions  $x_\infty$  and  $x_a$  of the initial value problems

$$(2.8) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} x'_\infty(t) = f_\infty(t, x_\infty(t)) & (p \leq t < T_\infty), \\ x_\infty(p) = w_\infty, & \\ \text{and} & \\ x'_a(t) = f_a(t, x_a(t)) & (p \leq t < T_a), \\ x_a(p) = w_a, & \\ \text{with final times } T_\infty \text{ and } T_a. & \end{array} \right.$$

The  $\liminf$ 's and  $\limsup$ 's in the theorem are with respect to the ordering of  $A$ .

#### Theorem III.

Let  $A$  be a directed set. Let  $f_\infty$  and  $\{f_a : a \in A\}$  be functions satisfying (1.2). Define maximal solutions  $x_\infty$ ,  $x_a$  and final times  $T_\infty$ ,  $T_a$  as in (2.8). Then the following conditions (2.9), (2.10), and (2.11) are equivalent:

$$(2.9) \quad \limsup_r \int_r^t f_a(s, y) ds \leq \int_r^t f_\infty(s, y) ds \quad \text{for every choice of } y \geq 0 \text{ and } t \geq r \geq 0$$

$$(2.10) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{for every choice of nonnegative numbers } p \text{ and } w_{\infty}, \text{ if} \\ w_a = w_{\infty} \text{ for all } a, \text{ then } \liminf T_a \geq T_{\infty} \text{ and} \\ \limsup x_a(t) \leq x_{\infty}(t) \text{ for all } t \text{ in } [p, T_{\infty}) \end{array} \right.$$

$$(2.11) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{for every choice of nonnegative numbers } p, w_{\infty}, \text{ and} \\ \{w_a : a \in A\}, \text{ if } \limsup w_a \leq w_{\infty}, \text{ then } \liminf T_a \geq T_{\infty} \text{ and} \\ \limsup x_a(t) \leq x_{\infty}(t) \text{ for all } t \text{ in } [p, T_{\infty}) . \end{array} \right.$$

In particular, the implication (2.9)  $\Rightarrow$  (2.11) tells us that maximal solutions are increasing and right-continuous, in the sense that if

$$\int_r^t f_a(s, y) ds + \int_r^t f_{\infty}(s, y) ds \text{ for all } y \geq 0 \text{ and } t \geq r \geq 0 ,$$

and  $w_a \uparrow w_{\infty}$ , then  $T_a \uparrow T_{\infty}$  and  $x_a(t) \uparrow x_{\infty}(t)$  for every  $t$  in  $[p, T_{\infty})$ .

The reader may feel uneasy about condition (2.9), and may prefer the simpler and more familiar condition

$$(2.12) \quad \limsup f_a(s, y) \leq f_{\infty}(s, y) \text{ for all } s \geq 0, y \geq 0 .$$

In fact, (2.12) implies (2.9), at least for  $L^1$ -dominated sequences, by Fatou's Lemma. The reverse implication does not hold. For instance, take  $A = \{\text{positive integers}\}$ , and

$f_a(s, y) = 1 + \sin(as)$ ,  $f_{\infty}(s, y) = 1$ . Then (2.9) holds but (2.12) does not. One purpose of Theorem III is to show that condition (2.9) is in some sense natural, and best possible.

### 3. Auxiliary constructions

The proofs of the theorems will be based partly on some technical lemmas given below.

#### Lemma 1.

Let  $v : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a measurable function which is bounded on compact subsets of  $[0, T)$ . Assume that  $T > 0$ , and that either  $T = \infty$  or  $\limsup_{t \uparrow T} v(t) = \infty$ . Let  $e : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a function satisfying (1.2). Assume that

$$(3.1) \quad v(t) - v(r) \leq \int_r^t e(s, v(s)) ds \quad \text{whenever} \quad 0 \leq r \leq t < T.$$

Then:

- (i)  $v(t) \leq \liminf_{r \uparrow t} v(r)$  for every  $t$  in  $(0, T)$ .
- (ii)  $v(r) \geq \limsup_{t \downarrow r} v(t)$  for every  $r$  in  $[0, T)$ .
- (iii) If  $a \in [0, T)$  and  $b \in [a, \infty)$  and  $h > 0$  satisfy  $\int_a^b e(s, v(a) + h) ds < h$ , then  $b < T$  and  $v(t) \leq v(a) + \int_a^t e(s, v(a) + h) ds < v(a) + h$  for all  $t$  in  $[a, b]$ .
- (iv)  $v$  is nonextendable, i.e.  $T = \infty$  or  $\liminf_{t \uparrow T} v(t) = \infty$ .

Note that in particular any nonextendable solution  $v$  of  $v'(t) = e(t, v(t))$  satisfies the hypotheses of Lemma 1.

#### Proof of Lemma 1.

Since  $v(s)$  is bounded on any compact subset of  $[0, T)$ ,  $e(s, v(s))$  is integrable there. So (i) and (ii) follow immediately from (3.1).

Let  $a, b, h$  satisfy the hypotheses of (iii). By (ii), since  $v(a) < v(a) + h$ , there is some  $c$  in  $(a, T)$  such that  $v(s) < v(a) + h$  on  $[a, c)$ . Choose the largest such  $c$ . If  $c < T$ , then (again by (ii))  $v(c) \geq v(a) + h$ . If  $c = T$ , then  $\limsup_{t \uparrow T} v(t) \leq v(a) + h < \infty$ , so we must have  $T = \infty$ .



For any  $t$  in  $[a,b] \cap [a,c] \cap [a,T]$ , compute

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) &\leq v(a) + \int_a^t e(s, v(s)) ds \leq v(a) + \int_a^t e(s, v(a) + h) ds \\ &\leq v(a) + \int_a^b e(s, v(a) + h) ds < v(a) + h. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, if  $c < T$  and  $c \leq b$ , then  $v(a) + h \leq v(c) < v(a) + h$ , a contradiction. So either  $c = T = \infty$  (in which case  $b < \infty = c = T$ ), or  $c < T$  (in which case  $b < c$ ). In either case we obtain  $b < c \leq T$ . Hence

$$t \in [a,b] \implies t \in [a,b] \cap [a,c] \cap [a,T] \implies v(t) \leq v(a) + \int_a^t e(s, v(a) + h) ds < v(a) + h.$$

This proves (iii).

To prove (iv), suppose  $T$  and  $M \equiv \liminf_{t \uparrow T} v(t)$  are both finite. Choose some  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough so that  $\int_{T-\varepsilon}^T e(s, M+2) ds < 1$ . Then choose some  $a$  in  $(T-\varepsilon, T)$  such that  $v(a) < M+1$ . Then  $\int_a^T e(s, v(a)+1) ds \leq \int_{T-\varepsilon}^T e(s, M+2) ds < 1$ . Apply (iii) with  $h=1$  and  $b=T$ . This proves  $T < T$ , a contradiction. Hence (iv) holds. This completes the proof of the lemma.

Let  $[[y]]$  be the greatest integer less than or equal to  $y$ . For each positive integer  $n$ , let  $h_n(y) = 2^{-n}([2^n y] + 1)$ . Then  $h_n(y)$  is the first multiple of  $2^{-n}$  after  $y$ . Hence  $y < h_{n+1}(y) \leq h_n(y) \leq y + 2^{-n}$ , and  $h_n(y) \rightarrow y$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

#### Lemma 2.

Let  $f$  satisfy (1.2), and let  $w$  be a nonnegative number. Fix some positive integer  $n$ . Then there exists a unique nonextendable solution  $x_n : [0, T_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of the initial value problem

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} x'_n(t) &= f(t, h_n(x_n(t))) + 2^{-n} \quad (0 \leq t < T_n), \\ x_n(0) &= h_n(w) + 2^{-n+1} = 2^{-n}([2^n w] + 3). \end{aligned}$$

This solution has the following further properties:

Let  $i = i(n) = [2^n w] + 3$ . Then for every integer  $j \geq i$  there exists a unique number  $t_j$  (depending on  $n$ ) such that  $x_n(t_j) = 2^{-n}j$ . These numbers satisfy

$$0 = t_i < t_{i+1} < t_{i+2} < \dots < T_n,$$

and  $t_j \rightarrow T_n$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ .

Furthermore:

Suppose  $v : [0, T] \rightarrow R_+$  and  $e : R_+ \times R_+ \rightarrow R_+$  satisfy the hypotheses of Lemma 1.

Suppose that  $v(0) \leq 2^{-n}([2^n w] + 2)$ , and

$$(3.3) \quad \int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} e(t, 2^{-n}j) dt < \int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} [f(t, 2^{-n}(j+1)) + 2^{-n}] dt$$

for  $j = i, i+1, i+2, \dots, k-1$ , where  $k$  is some integer greater than  $i$ .

Then  $T > t_k$ ;  $v(t_j) \leq 2^{-n}(j-1)$  for  $j = i, i+1, \dots, k$ ; and  $v(t) < x_n(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, t_k]$ .

If (3.3) holds for all integers  $j \geq i$  (in particular, if  $e(t, y) < f(t, y) + 2^{-n}$  for all  $t \geq 0$  and  $y \geq 0$ ), then  $T \geq T_n$ , and  $v(t) < x_n(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, T_n]$ .

#### Proof.

First suppose that (3.2) does have at least one nonextendable solution

$x_n : [0, T_n) \rightarrow R_+$ . Since  $x'_n(t) \geq 2^{-n}$ , the numbers  $t_j$  satisfying  $x_n(t_j) = 2^{-n}j$  are uniquely determined by this solution  $x_n$ ; and  $t_j$  increases to  $T_n$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . For  $t_{j-1} \leq t < t_j$  we have  $h_n(x_n(t)) = 2^{-n}j$ , hence  $x'_n(t) = f(t, 2^{-n}j) + 2^{-n}$ . Therefore

$$(3.4) \quad x_n(t) = 2^{-n}(j-1) + \int_{t_{j-1}}^t [f(s, 2^{-n}j) + 2^{-n}] ds \quad (t_{j-1} \leq t \leq t_j).$$

Since  $x_n(t_j) - x_n(t_{j-1}) = 2^{-n}j - 2^{-n}(j-1) = 2^{-n}$ , we must have



$$(3.5) \quad 2^{-n} = \int_{t_{j-1}}^{t_j} [f(s, 2^{-n}j) + 2^{-n}] ds \quad (j = i, i+1, i+2, \dots)$$

if a nonextendable solution  $x_n$  exists.

Formula (3.5) recursively determines  $t_j$  uniquely from  $t_{j-1}$ . Then (3.4) uniquely determines  $x_n(t)$ . We easily verify that the function  $x_n(t)$  constructed in this fashion is a nonextendable solution of (3.2). This completes the proof of the first part of the lemma.

Now suppose  $v$ ,  $e$ , and  $k$  satisfy the hypotheses stated in the lemma. As an induction hypothesis, assume that  $t_j < T_v$  and  $v(t_j) \leq 2^{-n}(j-1)$ , for some  $j < k$ . (This is clear for  $j = i$ , since  $t_i = 0$ .) Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} e(s, v(t_j) + 2^{-n}) ds &\leq \int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} e(s, 2^{-n}j) ds \\ &< \int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} [f(s, 2^{-n}(j+1)) + 2^{-n}] ds = 2^{-n}, \end{aligned}$$

by (3.3) and (3.5). Hence, by part (iii) of Lemma 1,  $T > t_{j+1}$ , and

$$v(t) < v(t_j) + 2^{-n} \leq 2^{-n}j = x_n(t_j) \leq x_n(t)$$

for all  $t$  in  $[t_j, t_{j+1}]$ . This completes the induction, and the proof of Lemma 2.

### Lemma 3.

Let  $f$  satisfy (1.2), and assume  $w \geq 0$ . Then there exists a maximal solution  $x_\infty : [0, T_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of (1.1). Moreover:

For each positive integer  $n$ , define  $x_n : [0, T_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  as in Lemma 2. Then the numbers  $T_n$  increase to  $T_\infty$ , and  $x_n(t) \rightarrow x_\infty(t)$  for each  $t$  in  $[0, T_\infty)$ , uniformly on compact subsets of  $[0, T_\infty)$ .

Proof.

We easily verify that the hypotheses of Lemma 2 are satisfied by

$e(t, y) = f(t, h_{n+1}(y)) + 2^{-n-1}$  and  $v(t) = x_{n+1}(t)$ . By Lemma 2, then,  $T_{n+1} \geq T_n$  and  $0 \leq x_{n+1}(t) \leq x_n(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, T_n]$ . Hence the numbers  $T_n$  increase to some limit  $T_\infty$  (possibly  $\infty$ ), and  $x_n(t)$  decreases to a limit  $x_\infty(t)$  for every  $t$  in  $[0, T_\infty]$ , uniformly on compact subsets of  $[0, T_\infty]$ .

Since  $h_n$  is an increasing function and  $y < h_{n+1}(y) \leq h_n(y) \leq y + 2^{-n}$ , it follows easily that  $h_n(x_n(t))$  decreases to  $x_\infty(t)$ . For almost every  $s$  in  $[0, T_\infty]$ ,  $f(s, \cdot)$  is increasing and right-continuous, hence  $f(s, h_n(x_n(s)))$  decreases to  $f(s, x_\infty(s))$ . Take limits in the equation

$$x_n(t) - x_n(r) = \int_r^t [f(s, h_n(x_n(s))) + 2^{-n}] ds.$$

By the Lebesgue Monotone Convergence Theorem, we obtain

$$x_\infty(t) - x_\infty(r) = \int_r^t f(s, x_\infty(s)) ds.$$

Therefore  $x_\infty : [0, T_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a solution of (1.1).

Suppose  $T_\infty$  is not final for  $x_\infty$ . Then  $T_\infty < \infty$ , and  $x_\infty(t)$  increases to some finite limit  $M$  when  $t \uparrow T_\infty$ . Fix some  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough so that

$$\int_{T_\infty - \varepsilon}^{T_\infty} f(s, M + 2) ds < 1.$$

Since  $f(s, h_n(M + 2)) + 2^{-n}$  decreases to  $f(s, M + 2)$ , for all  $n$  sufficiently large we have

$$\int_{T_\infty - \varepsilon}^{T_\infty} [f(s, h_n(M + 2)) + 2^{-n}] ds < 1.$$



Since  $T_n \uparrow T_\infty$  and  $x_n \uparrow x_\infty$ , for all  $n$  sufficiently large we have  $T_\infty - \varepsilon < T_n \leq T_\infty$  and  $x_n(T_\infty - \varepsilon) < x_\infty(T_\infty - \varepsilon) + 1 \leq M + 1$ . Then

$$\int_{T_\infty - \varepsilon}^{T_\infty} \{f(s, h_n[x_n(T_\infty - \varepsilon) + 1]) + 2^{-n}\} ds < 1.$$

Apply part (iii) of Lemma 1 with  $v(s) = x_n(s)$  and  $e(s, y) = f(s, h_n(y)) + 2^{-n}$ . We obtain  $T_\infty < T_n$ , a contradiction. So  $T_\infty$  is final for  $x_\infty$ , i.e.  $x_\infty$  is nonextendable.

To show the solution  $x_\infty$  is maximal, let  $v : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be any other nonextendable solution of (1.1). It follows easily from Lemma 2 that  $T \geq T_n$  and  $v(t) \leq x_n(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, T_n)$ . Taking limits, we find that  $T \geq T_\infty$  and  $v(t) \leq x_\infty(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, T_\infty)$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 3.

#### 4. Proofs of theorems

##### Proof of Theorem I.

Most of Theorem I was proved in Lemma 3. It suffices to show every solution  $x : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of (1.1) can be continued to a nonextendable solution. Suppose  $T$  is not final for  $x$ . Then  $T$  is finite, and  $x(t)$  increases to some finite limit  $L$  when  $t \uparrow T$ . By Lemma 3, there exists a maximal, hence nonextendable, solution of

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= f(t, x(t)) & (T \leq t < T_x), \\ x(T) &= L. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem I.

##### Proof of Theorem II.

##### (2.3) implies (2.4):

Trivial.

##### (2.4) implies (2.3):

Fix some  $q$  in  $[0, T)$  and some  $\varepsilon > 0$ . It suffices to show that

$$(4.1) \quad v(t) - v(q) \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \int_q^t f(s, v(s)) ds$$

for all  $t$  in  $[q, T)$  (for then let  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ ). Let  $S = \{t \in [q, T) : (4.1) \text{ holds}\}$ . Then  $q \in S$ .

Fix any  $r \in S$ . Then  $v(t) - v(r) \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \int_r^t f(s, v(s)) ds$  for all  $t$  greater than  $r$  and sufficiently close to  $r$ , by (2.1). For any such  $t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) - v(q) &= [v(t) - v(r)] + [v(r) - v(q)] \\ &\leq (1 + \varepsilon) \int_r^t f(s, v(s)) ds + (1 + \varepsilon) \int_q^r f(s, v(s)) ds = (1 + \varepsilon) \int_q^t f(s, v(s)) ds \end{aligned}$$

and so  $t \in S$ . Thus  $S$  is open on the right in  $[q, T)$ . On the other hand, since  $(1 + \varepsilon) \int_q^t f(s, v(s)) ds$  is a continuous function of  $t$  and  $v(t) \leq \liminf_{r \uparrow t} v(r)$ ,  $S$  is closed on the right in  $[q, T)$ . Therefore  $S = [q, T)$ . This completes the proof of (2.3).

(2.3) implies (2.7):

Immediate from part (iv) of Lemma 1.

(2.3) implies (2.5):

By a translation of  $p$ , we may assume without loss of generality that  $p = 0$ . The function  $x_0 : [0, T_0] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of Theorem II is the same as the function  $x_\infty : [0, T_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of Lemma 3, with  $w = v(0)$ . By Lemma 2,  $T_n \leq T$  and  $x_n \geq v$ . Hence, by Lemma 3,  $T_\infty \leq T$  and  $x_\infty \geq v$ .

(2.5) implies (2.6):

Fix  $t$  in  $[0, T]$ . By hypothesis,  $M \equiv \sup\{v(s) : 0 \leq s \leq t\}$  is finite. Since  $f(\cdot, M+1)$  is integrable on  $[0, t]$ , there is some  $\mu > 0$  such that

$$\int_a^b f(s, M+1) ds < 1 \text{ if } 0 \leq a \leq b \leq t \text{ and } b-a \leq \mu.$$

It follows by Lemma 1, part (iii), that

$$(4.2) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if } 0 \leq a \leq b \leq t, \ b-a \leq \mu, \text{ then} \\ T_a > b \text{ and } x_a(r) \leq v(a) + \int_a^r f(s, v(a)+1) ds \\ \text{for all } r \text{ in } [a, b], \text{ hence in particular} \\ v(b) - v(a) \leq x_a(b) - v(a) \leq \int_a^b f(s, M+1) ds. \end{array} \right.$$

Let any partition

$$(4.3) \quad 0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_m = t$$

of  $[0, t]$  be given. Choose a refinement

$$0 = s_0 < s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_n = t$$

such that  $\max_i (s_i - s_{i-1}) < \mu$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} v(s_n) - v(s_0) &= \sum_{i=1}^n [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})]^+ - \sum_{i=1}^n [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})]^-, \end{aligned}$$

where  $[w]^+ = \max\{w, 0\}$ ,  $[w]^- = \max\{-w, 0\}$ . Hence



$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{j=1}^m |v(t_j) - v(t_{j-1})| &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n |v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})| \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})]^+ + \sum_{i=1}^n [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})]^- \\
&= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})]^+ + v(s_0) - v(s_n) \\
&\leq 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{s_{i-1}}^{s_i} f(s, M+1) ds + M + 0 = 2 \int_0^t f(s, M+1) ds + M.
\end{aligned}$$

The right side is independent of the choice of partition (4.3). This proves (2.6).

(2.5) and (2.6) together imply (2.3):

Fix  $t$  and  $r$ ,  $0 \leq r < t < T$ . By hypothesis,  $M = \sup\{v(s) : 0 \leq s \leq t\}$  is finite. Choose  $\mu > 0$  to satisfy (4.2).

By (2.6),  $v$  has at most countably many discontinuities in  $[0, t]$ , each discontinuity is a jump, and the magnitudes of the jumps are summable. Hence for each positive integer  $n$ , the set

$$A_n = \{s \in (r, t) : |v(s+) - v(s)| > 2^{-n} \text{ or } |v(s-) - v(s)| > 2^{-n}\}$$

is finite. The sets  $A_n$  form an increasing sequence, and  $v$  is continuous at every  $s \in (r, t) \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ .

The sets

$$B_n = \{r + 2^{-n}k(t-r) : k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^n\}$$

also form an increasing sequence of finite sets; hence so do the sets  $C_n = A_n \cup B_n$ .

Temporarily fix any integer  $n > \log_2((t-r)/\mu)$ . Suppose  $C_n$  consists of the points

$$(4.4) \quad C_n : r = s_0 < s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_m = t.$$

Then  $s_i - s_{i-1} \leq 2^{-n}(t-r) < \mu$ , so

$$T_{s_{i-1}} > s_i$$

by (4.2). Therefore we can define a function  $w_n : [r, t] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by taking

$$w_n(s_i) = v(s_i) \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq m,$$

$$w_n(s) = x_{s_{i-1}}(s) \text{ for } s_{i-1} \leq s < s_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

Hence

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{cases} v(s) \leq w_n(s) \leq M+1 \text{ for all } s \text{ in } [r, t], \text{ and} \\ w_n(s) = v(s_{i-1}) + \int_{s_{i-1}}^s f(q, x_{s_{i-1}}(q)) dq \leq v(s_{i-1}) + \int_{s_{i-1}}^s f(q, M+1) dq \\ \text{for all } s \text{ in } [s_{i-1}, s_i], \text{ and} \end{cases}$$

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{cases} v(t) - v(r) = \sum_{i=1}^m [v(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})] \leq \sum_{i=1}^m [x_{s_{i-1}}(s_i) - v(s_{i-1})] \\ = \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{s_{i-1}}^{s_i} f(s, x_{s_{i-1}}(s)) ds = \int_r^t f(s, w_n(s)) ds. \end{cases}$$

Now suppose  $n > \log_2((t-r)/\mu) + 1$ . For any  $s_{i-1}$  and  $s_i$  in  $C_n$ , both  $w_n$  and  $w_{n-1}$  are defined on  $[s_{i-1}, s_i]$  as maximal solutions of  $w'(s) = f(s, w(s))$ , with initial values  $w_n(s_{i-1})$  and  $w_{n-1}(s_{i-1})$ , respectively. But

$w_n(s_{i-1}) = v(s_{i-1}) \leq w_{n-1}(s_{i-1})$  since  $s_{i-1} \in C_n$ . Hence  $w_n \leq w_{n-1}$  on  $[s_{i-1}, s_i]$ . This holds for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ; so  $w_n \leq w_{n-1}$  on  $[r, t]$ . Thus

$$(4.7) \quad w_n \geq w_{n+1} \geq w_{n+2} \geq \dots \geq v \text{ on } [r, t],$$

and  $w_n(s) = v(s)$  for all  $s$  in  $C_n$ .

We wish to show  $w_n(s)$  decreases to  $v(s)$  for every  $s$  in  $[r, t]$ . This is clear for every  $s$  in  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n$ . Fix any  $s$  in  $[r, t] \setminus \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n$ . Then  $v(\cdot)$  is continuous at  $s$ . Temporarily fix some large  $n$ , and let  $C_n$  be as in (4.4). Choose  $i$  so that  $s_{i-1} < s < s_i$ . We shall apply inequality (4.5). As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $s_{i-1} \rightarrow s$ , hence  $v(s_{i-1}) \rightarrow v(s)$  and  $\int_{s_{i-1}}^s f(q, M+1) dq \rightarrow 0$ . Taking limits in (4.5), we obtain  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} w_n(s) \leq v(s)$ . In view of (4.7), then,  $w_n(s)$  decreases to  $v(s)$ .

For almost every  $s$  in  $[r, t]$ ,  $f(s, \cdot)$  is increasing and right-continuous, so  $f(s, w_n(s))$  decreases to  $f(s, v(s))$ . Also  $f(s, w_n(s)) \leq f(s, M+1)$ , which is an integrable function of  $s$ . By Lebesgue's Dominated Convergence Theorem, from (4.6) we obtain

$$v(t) - v(r) \leq \int_r^t f(s, v(s)) ds.$$

This proves (2.3), and completes the proof of Theorem II.

Proof of Theorem III.

(2.11) implies (2.10):

Trivial.

(2.9) implies (2.11):

Without loss of generality let  $p = 0$ . Let  $f = f_\infty$ ,  $w = w_\infty$ . Fix any positive integer  $n$ , and define  $x_n$ ,  $i$ , and  $\{t_j\}$  as in Lemma 2. Fix any integer  $k > i$ . Then for all  $a \in A$  sufficiently large,  $w_a \leq 2^{-n}([2^n w_\infty] + 2)$  (since  $\limsup w_a \leq w_\infty$ ) and

$$\int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} f_a(t, 2^{-n}j) dt < \int_{t_j}^{t_{j+1}} [f_\infty(t, 2^{-n}(j+1)) + 2^{-n}] dt$$

( $j = i, i+1, i+2, \dots, k-1$ ), by (2.9). Hence, by Lemma 2,  $T_a > t_k$ , and  $x_a \leq x_n$  on  $[0, t_k]$ . Therefore  $\liminf T_a \geq t_k$ , and  $\limsup x_a(t) \leq x_n(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, t_k]$ . Let  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and then let  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ; this proves  $\liminf T_a \geq T_\infty$  and  $\limsup x_a(t) \leq x_\infty(t)$  for all  $t$  in  $[0, T_\infty]$ .

(2.10) implies (2.9):

Suppose  $\limsup_r \int_r^t f_a(s, y) ds > \int_r^t f_\infty(s, y) ds$  for some  $y \geq 0$  and  $t > r \geq 0$ . Since  $\int_r^t f_\infty(s, \cdot) ds$  is right-continuous, we have in fact

$$\limsup_r \int_r^t f_a(s, y) ds > \int_r^t f_\infty(s, y + \epsilon) ds$$

for some  $\epsilon > 0$ . Partition the interval  $[r, t]$  into  $n$  pieces  $[r', t']$  of length  $(t - r)/n$ . For  $n$  large enough, all of the pieces must satisfy

$$(4.8) \quad \int_{r'}^{t'} f_\infty(s, y + \epsilon) ds < \epsilon.$$



On the other hand, at least one of the pieces must satisfy

$$(4.9) \quad \limsup_{r'} \int_{r'}^{t'} f_a(s, y) ds > \int_{r'}^{t'} f_{\infty}(s, y + \epsilon) ds .$$

Fix this choice of  $r'$  and  $t'$ . Let  $p = r'$  and  $w_a = w_{\infty} = y$ , and define maximal solutions  $x_a$  and  $x_{\infty}$  and final times  $T_a$  and  $T_{\infty}$  as in (2.8). By hypothesis (2.10) we have  $\liminf T_a \geq T_{\infty}$  and

$$(4.10) \quad \limsup x_a(s) \leq x_{\infty}(s) \text{ for every } s \text{ in } [r', T_{\infty}) .$$

Since  $x_{\infty}(r') = y$ , we can use (4.8) and part (iii) of Lemma 1 to show that  $T_{\infty} > t'$  and that

$$(4.11) \quad x_{\infty}(t') \leq y + \int_{r'}^{t'} f_{\infty}(s, y + \epsilon) ds .$$

Then for all  $a \in A$  sufficiently large we have  $T_a > t'$  and

$$(4.12) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_a(t') = x_a(r') + \int_{r'}^{t'} f_a(s, x_a(s)) ds \\ \geq x_a(r') + \int_{r'}^{t'} f_a(s, x_a(r')) ds = y + \int_{r'}^{t'} f_a(s, y) ds . \end{array} \right.$$

Combine (4.10) (with  $s = t'$ ) and (4.9), (4.11), (4.12); this gives us a contradiction.

So (2.10) implies (2.9). This completes the proof of Theorem III.

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